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rank they be, are at full liberty to write, print, and publish their political ideas, only enacting, that the punishment awarded by the law shall be inflicted upon the authors of defamatory libels, or writings, calumnious, subversive of the fundamental laws of the monarchy, licentious and contrary to public decorum and manners, or such as contain personal abuse; none of which faults can be imputed to the paper referred to them, they deem it their duty, as protectors of the liberty of the press, to declare, as they do declare, the same free from legal censure, justice so requiring.

"May God, &c.

"JOSE RICE OSORIO, President.

"JOSE MARIA YANGUAS Y SORIA, Sec.

"Cadiz, May 14th, 1813.

"To H. E. Don Pedro Labrador."

Resolutions moved in the House of Commons, July 14th, by Sir Henry Parnell, on the subject of the value of gold, which were lost by the question of adjournment.

That it is declared by the indenture between his Majesty and the officers of the mint, bearing date the 28th Nov. 1771, that the right standard of his Majesty's monies of crown gold is, in regard to the piece which is called a guinea, or 21 shilling piece, that there shall be 44 of these, and one ten shilling and sixpenny piece in the pound weight troy, of the fineness of 22 carats of fine gold, and 2 carats of alloy; and that every pound weight troy of monies of gold shall be in value £46 14s. 6d.

That according to this standard the guinea, or 21 shilling piece, contains 5dwts. 8grs. of gold.

That prior to the restriction of cash payments by the bank of England in 1797, the paper of that bank, of the nominal value of 21 shillings, was of the marketable value of 5dwts. 8grs. of gold, because it was convertible, on demand, into a guinea.

That the value of a pound weight troy of gold coin, or of gold bullion of equal fineness, in bank of England paper, of which the general currency now consists, has of late been sixty-six pounds.

That according to this value of gold, the paper of that bank of the nominal value of 21 shillings, is of the marketable value of 3dwts. 19grs. of Gold.

That the difference between the value of his Majesty's gold coin and the value of

the paper money of the bank of England, is equal to the difference between 5dwts. 8grs. and 3dwts. 19grs. of gold. That is to say, the value of bank paper money is less than the value of his Majesty's money by 28 per cent.

That the House will, early in the next session of Parliament, take this circumstance into its most serious consideration, with a view to restore the currency to that value, which is declared by his Majesty's indenture to be the right standard of the money of England.

#### LIVERPOOL PETITION FOR A REFORM IN PARLIAMENT.

To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled.

The humble petition of the undersigned inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Liverpool,

Sheweth,

That your petitioners deem it expedient, at this momentous crisis, to exercise their privilege as *Britons*, by humbly stating to your Honourable House their sense of public grievances, and by respectfully, but firmly, calling upon your Honourable House to apply to those grievances such remedies as they conceive to be pointed out by the principles of the Constitution.

Your petitioners, in the first place, beg leave to remind your Honourable House that it is now twenty years since his Majesty's ministers engaged this nation in a war with France, for the avowed purpose of reducing that power within her ancient limits, and of restraining her influence in the affairs of Europe: how miserably this project has failed, how widely the limits of France are extended, and how pernicious to this country her predominant influence in the affairs of Europe has for some years been, it is unnecessary for your petitioners to state, nor will they particularize the numerous military expeditions, from the expedition to Flanders in 1793, to that of Walcheren in 1809, which, after a lavish expenditure of blood and treasure, have, on our part, resulted in disappointment and discomfiture.

Your petitioners farther beg leave to state, that there have occurred periods in the progress of this warfare, in which the enemy has been so circumstanced that he might reasonably have been expected to accept of peace on terms honourable and advantageous to this country, but that these opportunities of pacification have

been uniformly neglected, and we are now not only involved in hostilities with France and her dependencies, but also with the United States of America.

Your petitioners moreover beg leave to remind your Honourable House, That during the continuance of these hostilities a great portion of the manufacturing part of the community have been repeatedly reduced to the extremity of want; that the national debt has increased to the enormous amount of *eight hundred millions*, and that taxation bears so heavily upon the middling classes of society, that his Majesty's Chancellor of the Exchequer is said to have declared, that the present system of finance can be carried no further.

Your petitioners therefore, humbly conceive, that the disappointments the nation has hitherto experienced in the course of the war in which we have so long been engaged, must be imputed as matter of blame either to the individuals employed to execute the measures of government, or to ministers, who by the unskilfulness of their plans have lost attainable objects, or by their folly have wasted the efforts of the nation on objects which are unattainable: and yet your petitioners beg leave to represent to your Honourable House, that it has so happened that not only the general policy and conduct of the war, but every ill-concerted expedition which has occurred in the course of its progress, and which has been from time to time called in question, stands vindicated upon the journals of your Honourable House, by the votes of majorities of its members.

Your petitioners then, after the most serious consideration, cannot but regard as the main and primary causes of these evils, the imperfect state of the representation of the people in your Honourable House, and especially the inroads which have been made upon the representative system by the lapse of time, in consequence of which the nominations of the members of decayed boroughs is fallen into the disposal of individuals who systematically make such nomination subservient to the purposes of corruption, and frequently a direct matter of bargain and sale; and to these causes your petitioners cannot but ascribe the fact, that in so many instances placemen and pensioners of the crown who have purchased seats, or who have otherwise corruptly procured from individuals nominations entitling

them to sit as members of your Honourable House, have been empowered to decide upon their own misdeeds, or upon the misdeeds of those upon whose continuance in office they depended for their subsistence; a practice, the obvious tendency of which is to render the responsibility of ministers (the grand security of our national liberty and prosperity) an empty name.

Your petitioners humbly conceiving that the above-mentioned evils are greatly aggravated by what they must ever consider as the unconstitutional protracting of the duration of Parliament from three years to seven, pray your Honourable House well to consider the premises, and, by taking immediate measures for the extending of the elective franchise, by the exclusion from your Honourable House of placemen and pensioners of the crown, and by the shortening the duration of Parliament, to apply a remedy to evils which are daily increasing in magnitude, and which threaten to undermine the foundation of our glorious constitution.

(Signed by about 7000 persons.)

#### GENERAL SYNOD OF ULSTER.

At an Annual Meeting of the Ministers and Elders of the General Synod of Ulster, held in Cookstown, July 3, 1813, the following declaration was agreed to, and ordered to be published:—

That, however reluctant we may be to obtrude our political sentiments on the attention of the public, we feel ourselves called on, at this time, explicitly to avow our unshaken attachment to the principles of the British constitution, an attachment inculcated by our fathers, and confirmed by our own observation and experience.

Sensible of the blessings of that civil and religious liberty which we enjoy, we cannot be uninterested spectators of the exertions which are made to extend them to all our fellow-subjects. Actuated by the spirit of the gospel, which teaches us to promote "peace on earth and goodwill towards men," and earnestly desirous that this benevolent spirit should be cherished by the people under our care, we consider it our duty to declare, that from the abolition of political distinctions, on account of religious profession, so far as may be consistent with the principles of the constitution, we anticipate the happiest consequences. Hence, we conceive, would arise a union of interest, the firmest